

S-38

c.1816

Hollyhurst

Venton vicinity

private

Facing a broad vista of the Manokin River, Hollyhurst stands on land originally surveyed for William Bozman on November 11, 1662, and known as "More and Case It." William Bozman, one of the earliest settlers along the Manokin, was named to a commission on the Eastern Shore which granted land warrants and administered the justice. Initially encompassing 1200 acres, William Bozman's land was divided between three sons, John, William, and George Bozman in 1664.

The expansive Manokin River land grant was fragmented several times during the eighteenth century between various Bozman descendants. At the close of the Revolutionary War, Isaac Bozman was assessed for a 130-tract of "More and Case It" on the Manokin River. However, Isaac and George Bozman mortgaged the plantation for £600 to William Williams, merchant, in 1790 (I/132). Due to Isaac's and George's deaths before the mortgage was satisfied, their plantation was offered at public sale. In 1802, Ezekial McClemmy Gilliss purchased from Littleton Dennis Esquire, the former property of George Bozman (N/516). Fourteen years later Ezekial M. Gilliss mortgaged 700 acres of "More ~~Case and~~ ^{and Case} It" to the Bank of Somerset for \$10,000 (JD 1/474), in an apparent effort to finance the construction of the extant two-story Flemish bond brick house.

Similar to many county plantation houses, Hollyhurst is supported by a raised foundation. Unlike most of its contemporaries, the three-bay house is covered by a parapet gable roof. Parapet gables were used on the wings of

the Teackle Mansion (1802-1805). Unfortunately, Hollyhurst burned during the early twentieth century, and the original interior fabric was completely destroyed.

Although Ezekial McClemmy Gilliss financed the construction of this brick house, he sold the property two years later to Dr. Levin Ballard for £1065 (JD 3/524). Dr. Ballard retained ownership of the plantation until his death in 1843. His executor, Edward Long, sold "More ^{and Chase} ~~Case and~~ It" to Henry A. White in 1844 with a confirmatory deed executed in 1849 (WP 4/267). The 1850 census records 31-year old Henry White and his wife, Anne, as well as their children, Fanny, William, and Wyatt on the farm. Fanny married Samuel S. Sudler on June 24, 1874, and she and her husband continued to inhabit the farm. Samuel S. Sudler sold the farm to Franklin Krips of the City of Philadelphia on November 20, 1889 (HFL 7/443). During the following seventy-three years the 132-acre farm was bought and sold thirteen times. The present owners acquired the house in June of 1981.

1. STATE COUNTY <u>Somerset</u> TOWN <u>Venton</u> VICINITY STREET NO. <u>Anderson</u>		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY	
ORIGINAL OWNER --- ORIGINAL USE <u>Dwelling</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>Mr. Scheller</u> PRESENT USE <u>Dwelling</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>Flemish Bond Brick</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>2½</u> <u>painted white</u>		2. NAME <u>Holly Hurst</u> <u>S-38</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>c. 1780</u> STYLE <u>County Georgian</u> ARCHITECT BUILDER	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>No</u>	
<p>This is a very simple late Georgian 2½ storey brick house with an A-roof. It is 3 bays wide and 2 deep. There is a central door. All of the windows are 6/6 but these are new sashes. They are capped by segmental arches composed of two rows of headers. The central window of the 2nd storey has been made much smaller and placed off center, giving an odd and unpleasant appearance to the front of the house. There is an enclosed brick chimney at each end of the house. The unusual feature of Holly Hurst is that the end walls rise higher than the roof line. The house sits on a high basement which has a water table of simple square bricks.</p> <p>Although the house has been altered somewhat and the brick is now covered with white paint, it is still a very pleasing and well maintained structure, sitting right on the bank of the Manokin River. The grounds have many good plantings of willows and boxwoods.</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE		Endangered Interior Exterior	
<p>Very good.</p>			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <u>Paul A. Brinkman</u> DATE OF RECORD <u>2/3/67</u>	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE



Hollyhurst

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Venton vicinity, Somerset Co., Maryland

South Elevation

1/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg./Md. Historical Trust



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Venton vicinity, Somerset Co., Maryland

South Elevation

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Holly Hust
Somerset

Photographed by
DANIEL C. CHURCH